10/758/100

Amendments to the Claims

1-4. (Cancelled)

5. (New) A method for producing a polypropylene resin molding composite for an automobile, said molding composite comprising a surface layer (11) and a foam layer (12), comprising the steps of:

providing the surface layer (11) comprising a surface layer of a polypropylene resin (11a) having a grain pattern and a laminate of a cushioning material (11b), wherein the cushioning material (11b) is a polypropylene resin expanded sheet having a compressive hardness of 0.1 MPa or higher and a melting point of 130°C or higher,

providing thermoplastic resin expanded particles, comprising a core made of a polypropylene resin and being in an expanded state, and a polyethylene resin coat covering the core and being in a substantially non-expanded state, wherein the polyethylene resin of the coat has a melting point of 125°C or lower and of 10°C or lower than the melting point of the polypropylene resin constituting the core,

placing the surface layer (11) in a mold,

filling the thermoplastic resin expanded particles on the cushioning material (11b),

heating the thermoplastic resin expanded particles at a heating temperature lower than a melting point of the polypropylene resin of the core, higher than a melting point of the polyethylene resin of the coat and being 130°C or lower, to generate the foam layer (12) and to fusion-bond the foam layer (12) and the cushioning material (11b), and

obtaining the polypropylene resin molding composite having a grain pattern on the surface layer of the polypropylene resin (11a).

6. (New) A method for producing a polypropylene resin molding composite for an automobile, said molding composite comprising a surface layer (11), a foam layer (12), and a base member (13), comprising the steps of:

providing the surface layer (11) comprising a surface layer of a polypropylene resin (11a)

having a grain pattern and a laminate of a cushioning material (11b), wherein the cushioning material (11b) is a polypropylene resin expanded sheet having a compressive hardness of 0.1 MPa or higher and a melting point of 130° or higher,

providing thermoplastic resin expanded particles, comprising a core made of a polypropylene resin and being in an expanded state, and a polyethylene resin coat covering the core and being in a substantially non-expanded state, wherein the polyethylene resin of the coat has a melting point of 125°C or lower and of 10°C or lower than the melting point of the polypropylene resin constituting the core,

placing the surface layer (11) and the base member (13) in a mold,

filling the thermoplastic resin expanded particles between the cushioning material (11b) and the base member (13),

heating the thermoplastic resin expanded particles at a heating temperature lower than a melting point of the polypropylene resin of the core, higher than a melting point of the polyethylene resin of the coat and being 130°C or lower, to generate the foam layer (12), to fusion-bond the foam layer (12) and the cushioning material (11b) and to fusion-bond the foam layer (12) and the base member (13), and

obtaining the polypropylene resin molding composite having a grain pattern on the surface layer of the polypropylene resin (11a).

- 7. (New) The method for producing a polypropylene resin molding composite for an automobile according to claim 5, wherein the polyethylene resin coat is a polyethylene resin that substantially exhibits no melting point.
- 8. (New) The method for producing a polypropylene resin molding composite for an automobile according to claim 6, wherein the polyethylene resin coat is a polyethylene resin that substantially exhibits no melting point.

- 9. (New) The method for producing a polypropylene resin molding composite for an automobile according to claim 5, wherein the thermoplastic resin expanded particles have an average particle diameter of 1.5 to 4.0 mm.
- 10. (New) The method for producing a polypropylene resin molding composite for an automobile according to claim 6, wherein the thermoplastic resin expanded particles have an average particle diameter of 1.5 to 4.0 mm.
- 11. (New) The method for producing a polypropylene resin molding composite for an automobile according to claim 5, wherein the particles are heated by steam.
- 12. (New) The method for producing a polypropylene resin molding composite for an automobile according to claim 6, wherein the particles are heated by steam.
- 13. (New) The method for producing a polypropylene resin molding composite for an automobile according to claim 5, wherein the polypropylene resin expanded sheet has a thickness of 1 to 4 mm.
- 14. (New) The method for producing a polypropylene resin molding composite for an automobile according to claim 6, wherein the polypropylene resin expanded sheet has a thickness of 1 to 4 mm.
- 15. (New) The method for producing a polypropylene resin molding composite for an automobile according to claim 5, wherein the polypropylene resin expanded sheet has an expansion magnification of 10 to 30 times.

- 16. (New) The method for producing a polypropylene resin molding composite for an automobile according to claim 6, wherein the polypropylene resin expanded sheet has an expansion magnification of 10 to 30 times.
- 17. (New) The method for producing a polypropylene resin molding composite for an automobile according to claim 5, wherein the polypropylene resin of the core and/or of the surface layer is at least one resin selected from propylene homopolymer, ethylene-propylene random copolymer, ethylene-propylene block copolymer, ethylene-propylene-butene random terpolymer, propylene-vinyl chloride copolymer, propylene-butene copolymer, and propylene-maleic anhydride copolymer.
- 18. (New) The method for producing a polypropylene resin molding composite for an automobile according to claim 6, wherein the polypropylene resin of the core and/or of the surface layer is at least one resin selected from propylene homopolymer, ethylene-propylene random copolymer, ethylene-propylene block copolymer, ethylene-propylene-butene random terpolymer, propylene-vinyl chloride copolymer, propylene-butene copolymer, and propylene-maleic anhydride copolymer.
- 19. (New) The method for producing a polypropylene resin molding composite for an automobile according to claim 5, wherein said molding composite is recyclable.
- 20. (New) The method for producing a polypropylene resin molding composite for an automobile according to claim 6, wherein said molding composite is recyclable.